



WEEK 3

ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE



BIG IDEA

God created us in His image.

THE BIBLE

God Created Adam and Eve: Genesis 1:26-31, 2:1-7 (Psalm 139:13-17; Ephesians 2:10)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Pin the Person on the World
- **ACTIVITY** | Self Portraits
- **QUESTION** | What is something that is very special to you?
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Mirror
- **THE BIG IDEA** | God created us in His image.
- **BIBLE STORY** | Genesis 1:26-31, 2:1-7
- **ACTIVITY** | What's Different?
- **ACTIVITY** | Fingerprint Earth
- **ACTIVITY** | Mirror Me
- **SCRIPTURE** | Psalm 139:13-17
- **ACTIVITY** | "I Am" Sashes
- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **PRAYER** | Mirror Reflections
- **MEMORY VERSES** | Romans 3:23; Psalm 139:14

SMALL GROUP TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
 - What job did God give Adam and Eve?
 - Since other people are created in His image as well, how should we treat them?
 - Why do you think God made people so unique and different from each other?
 - What is something special about yourself that you like?
 - What would you tell a friend who did not like something about themselves?
- **SCRIPTURE** | Ephesians 2:10
- **ACTIVITY** | Sit Down If You
- **MEMORY VERSES** | Romans 3:23; Psalm 139:14



WEEK 3

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

God created us in His image.

THE BIBLE

God Created Adam and Eve: Genesis 1:26-31, 2:1-7 (Psalm 139:13-17; Ephesians 2:10)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

ACTIVITY | Pin the Person on the World

- Welcome! We're talking about this awesome planet God has given us. Today, we're learning about the people God created.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print out the Pin the Person printable and cut out the people and the world. You could also use a large world map or a globe. Give each kid a person cutout with tape. Show them how to make a double-sided piece of tape on the back of their person so they can stick it on the world. Let them take turns wearing a blindfold and taping their person on the world.*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** *They may not be able to tolerate the feeling of a blindfold on their eyes. Allow these kids to participate in the game without a blindfold. They can close their eyes if they understand the concept of the game.*
- **FOR PRETEENS:** *Tell them to imagine you're doing an exchange program for a year with a church in another country. Tell them to go to the map and move their person to the country in the world where they would like to do this exchange with another church.*
- **What part of the world did your person end up in? What do you know about that part of the world? What do you think it would be like to live there?**
- There are people all over the world living in different countries, different cultures, and speaking different languages. What's really cool is they all have something in common. God created every person in the world in His image. That's what we will be learning about today!

ACTIVITY | Self Portraits

- **Do you think it would be easy to draw a picture of yourself? It should be, right?** You probably know exactly what you look like. Let's try it, but with a challenge!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have the kids take a piece of paper and a pencil and tell them to draw a picture of themselves. There's a catch - they must stare at the ceiling while they draw. As they draw, talk with them about what they think their pictures will look like. After a few minutes, have them look at their portraits.*
- **Does your picture look like you? Does it look like what you thought it would?** Today, we will learn about how we were created.

QUESTION | What is something that is very special to you?

- Out of all of the things God created, there was one creation that was extremely special to Him. This creation was so precious that He created it in His own image. Today, we're talking about that precious creation.

*SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?***OBJECT LESSON | Mirror**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show kids a handheld mirror. Let them take turns looking in the mirror and thanking God for something about their appearance.*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** *This is a perfect lesson for these kids to simultaneously see and understand how God really did create all of us in a beautiful and unique way. Allow them to hold their own mirror for the longer segments during your service. This may help the child stay actively engaged.*
- **When you look in a mirror, what do you see?** Sometimes people look in the mirror and see everything they don't like. If they have blonde hair, they might wish it was brown. If they have blue eyes, they might wish they had green, and the brown-eyed people might wish they had blue eyes.
- What you see in that mirror is wonderful because God made you just like He wants you to be.
- Let's take turns looking in the mirror and thanking God for something we see. You might say, "Thank you God for my awesome hair!" or "God, thank you for my nose that can smell," or "Thank you for my tongue that can taste delicious food."

THE BIG IDEA | God created us in His image.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:*
- *Ask the kids to give you a drumroll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.*
- *Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections).*
- *Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.*
- *Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, ask someone to come up and read it.*
- This week's Big Idea: **God created us in His image.**

BIBLE STORY | Genesis 1:26-31, 2:1-7

- Last week, we learned about how God created the world and everything in it. Today, we will read a story from the Bible to learn about God’s most precious and special creation.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the story in your Bible and encourage kids to do the same. Read it!*
- **God created man and woman in His image. What else did He create in His image?** Nothing! When God created the first humans, Adam and Eve, He said, “Let us make them in our image.” **Do you know what He meant by that?** It meant that God made people different from everything else in creation.
- **So what makes us different and special?** People were made to be in relationship with God and each other. We were made to have feelings, to have ideas, and to know right from wrong. We get the chance to choose to love God, worship Him, and have a relationship with Him. His love and His goodness show up in our lives. **How amazing is that?**
- God said all of the rest of creation was good. **What did He say about people?** He said it was very good.
- **What job did God give to Adam?** He told him to be fruitful, multiply, subdue the earth, and rule over nature. Adam and Eve had a big job! They were the first people to ever live! They got to take care of the animals and land and they got to name the animals. **Could you imagine looking at a flamingo or a zebra and trying to think of a name for it?**
- Out of all the things God created, man and woman were the only things created in God’s image, with the ability to reflect His love. **Why is that important?**
- God made us in His image to reflect His goodness. You are special to Him.
- This also affects the way we treat other people because all people were created in God’s image and they are just as precious and valuable to Him as we are.

ACTIVITY | What’s Different?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Call three kids up to the front. Tell the other kids to take a good look at them, then have the three go away and change three things about themselves. They could change their hairstyle, take off a shoe, pull a sock up or down, turn their shirt inside out, take off their jewelry, untuck their shirt, or do anything else to make themselves look a little differently. Give them 30 seconds to make their changes, then call them all out front again and let the kids try to figure out what three things are different about each person.*
- You had to really pay attention in this game to figure out what was different and unique about each person! God created the world and the trees and plants and animals. He said it was all good. But then, He created something different.
- **What was different about humans?** People are different from everything else God made. We were created in His image. He made us to have a relationship with Him. And He made all of us special and unique.

ACTIVITY | Fingerprint Earth

- Speaking of being unique, do you know what is unique about fingerprints? Every single person in the whole world has a different design on their fingerprint. There are no two fingerprints that are the same. It’s a great reminder of how God has created each of us to be unique.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give the kids a Fingerprint Earth printable and some blue, green, and brown*

ink pads. Show kids how to put their finger in the paint and make fingerprints. They can use their fingerprints in the different colors to color the picture of the earth.

- God created the whole world and filled it with people, His unique creation, made in His image.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

ACTIVITY | Mirror Me

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids get into pairs. One kid will be the mirror and will do different silly actions while their partner tries to mirror them exactly. After a minute, have them switch roles.
- **Was it easy to mirror the actions of the friend you were paired up with? Why or why not?**
- We are made in God's image and we can reflect Him.
- **Why do you think God said humans are made in His image, and not anything else He created?** People have the ability to reflect God in a way that nothing else in all of creation can: we can have a relationship with God and mirror His love and His goodness.

SCRIPTURE | Psalm 139:13-17

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the verses and encourage the kids to look it up. Read them!
- **What do these verses tell us about how God created us?** God knew us before we were formed, He formed us, and we are wonderfully made.
- **Are there times you don't feel like you are wonderfully made? What can make us feel that way?**
- **How can these verses help us when we are feeling that way?**
- **What does this verse say about your life?** No matter how you feel right now, you were created by God on purpose and you are special. There is a reason and a plan for your life.

ACTIVITY | "I Am" Sashes

- In the verses we just read, we learned God made you special and on purpose. He created you before you were born. He planned what you would look like and what you would be like. He knew what you would love and what would make you excited. We're going to make sashes to help us see all the good things about ourselves that God created in us. Think about some things that make you special and unique and some things you like about yourself. You will write them on your sash, then wear it as a reminder that God made you in His image.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a strip of fabric, scissors, and fabric markers. Have them write their name on the fabric. Then have them lay their sashes on a flat table and write positive words about themselves on their sash. You can also have them take turns writing encouraging phrases on each other's sashes if your group knows each other well. Show them how to tie them and wear them as a sash.
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** Show a completed sample of a sash before the child begins. A child with limited small-motor skills may have trouble holding down the sash with one hand and writing with the other. You can tape the sash down to the table before the child begins to write.
- **FOR PRETEENS:** As an alternative for the preteens, give each student a piece of paper or cardstock and have them how to hold it in portrait position to make a "tent card." Have them write the words and phrases on the outside of the tent fold card after writing their name in the center of the card on one side of the tent.

MUSIC | Worship Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson, we like "He Knows My Name" by Shout Praises Kids and "Who You Say I Am" by Yancy.*
- When you're worshipping today, think about this: God created you exactly like He wants you to be. He created you in His image. He knows you and loves you.

PRAYER | Mirror Reflections

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give the kids handheld mirrors and have each examine their face.*
- As you look in the mirror, take a good look at your face. You might see brown eyes or blue eyes, freckles for a birthmark, red hair or black hair. You may like how you look or you might like to change a thing or two. He created you just how He wanted you to be.
- Think about what it means to be created in God's image. Being made in God's image means you are like this mirror, reflecting the love of God and His greatness.
- Let's thank God for making us in His image.

MEMORY VERSES | Romans 3:23; Psalm 139:14

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give every kid memory verse magnets or stickers. Then work on the memory verse together. For ideas on how to do this well, check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming folder and give them to your small group leaders, if you'd like.*

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What job did God give Adam and Eve?** *(To multiply, to rule over the land and animals.)*
- **How do we know people are God's most precious creation?** *(People are the only ones created in the image of God.)*
- **Since other people are created in His image as well, how should we treat them?**
- **Why do you think God made people so unique and different from each other?**
- **What is something special about yourself that you like?**
- **What would you tell a friend who did not like something about themselves?**

SCRIPTURE | Ephesians 2:10

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the verse in the Bible and read it!*
- **What does the first part of this verse call us?** *(God's handiwork, workmanship, or masterpiece.)*
- **How can God use your unique gifts and the unique way you are created to make a difference in the world?**

ACTIVITY | Sit Down if You

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Kids will stand up; the leader will say, "Sit down if you..." If the statement the leader says applies to them, they will sit down.*
- *You can use statements such as. . .*

- *Have brown hair*
 - *Love to eat pizza*
 - *Play a sport*
 - *Like to play board games*
 - *Have glasses or contacts*
 - *Have a brother*
 - *Like animals*
 - *Have blue eyes*
 - *Like to eat vegetables*
- We're all different in a lot of ways. We have different colors of hair, different families, and different interests, but we all reflect God. We are all God's masterpiece.

MEMORY VERSES | Romans 3:23; Psalm 139:14

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give every kid memory verse magnets or stickers. Then work on the memory verse together. For ideas on how to do this well, check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder and give them to your small group leaders, if you'd like.*